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February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Jerrold Nadler, Chair House Judiciary Committee 2138 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Jim Jordan, Ranking Member House Judiciary Committee 2056 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

## Re: The American Music Fairness Act (AMFA), H.R. 4130

Dear Chairman Nadler and Ranking Member Jordan:

The **Society of Composers & Lyricists** (SCL) is the premier US organization for music creators working in all forms of visual media, including film, television, video games, and musical theatre. It has a membership of over 2,400 professional composers and lyricists and is a founding co-member— along with Songwriters Guild of America (SGA) and other independent music creator groups -- of Music Creators North America (MCNA).

I am writing you today to urge your support for the American Music Fairness Act (AMFA), H.R. 4130, a bill that would finally recognize a terrestrial public performance right for sound recordings in the United States. The United States is one of the few countries in the world that does not require AM/FM radio stations to compensate copyright owners of sound recordings when those works are played over the air. And due to a system of reciprocity, our failure to compensate sound recording rightsholders in the U.S. means that American copyright owners are prevented from being paid when their sound recordings are played over the air in other countries as well. The AMFA would fix this by establishing a terrestrial public performance right for sound recordings, and bringing U.S. copyright law in line with other industrialized nations around the world.

As a creator, I know firsthand that the livelihoods of creative professionals depend on our right to be adequately and fairly compensated for our work. So, I am asking you today to show your support for creators like me and my fellow SCL members by supporting and cosponsoring the AMFA.

Thank you for your assistance and support.

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Sincerely,

Ashley Irwin President